

In re Application of: Eli Nhaissi et al
Serial No.: 09/744,102
Filed: March 16, 2001
Office Action Mailing Date: Oct. 28, 2008

Examiner: Olabode Akintola
Group Art Unit: 3691
Attorney Docket No. 35814

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner cited the Roden U.S. Patent 5,970,477 as teaching Internet billing by allowing a user to access a plurality of Internet sites via an Internet connection (cost) server in which the user's account is charged different rates depending on the cost of connection to the different Internet sites. The Ferguson U.S. Patent 5,819,092 is secondarily cited as teaching an Internet service site that charges users fees for various services, hosts third party services, handles advertising, transfers fees between different accounts, etc.

Main Claim 131 is herein amended to more particularly define the distinctive feature in the invention of allowing a user computer to access to a plurality of Internet product provider sites each of which is offering a product or value activity for purchase by a user via the cost server which is not one of said plurality of Internet product provider sites and at which the respective user has established a pre-paid user account in a given authorized amount, tracking access of each respective user to each said Internet product provider site and ... generating a debit against the authorized amount of the pre-paid user account for said user according to ... charges at a different rate for each said Internet product provider site according to the value amount said user has requested to purchase. In this manner, a user can establish a pre-paid account at a cost server URL which can be accessed from any location on the Internet and purchases can be paid for by debiting the user's pre-paid account at the cost server site without having to disclose the user's computer address, personal information, or other user information involuntarily gleaned from the user's computer (by planted cookies). Claim 132 is cancelled, and depending Claims 133-134 and 180-202 are deemed to be patentable for the same distinctive feature recited in main Claim 131.

Appointment of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address

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Respectfully submitted,
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